COMBINED DECLARATION & POWER OF ATTORNEY - U.S.A Application

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled RELEASABLY-SECURABLE ONE-PIECE ADJUSTABLE GASTRIC BAND, the specification of which

| entitled RELI | EASABI | LY-SECURABLI | E ONE-PIECE | | BAND, the specification of which |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| (check one) | [] [x] | is attached here was filed on Ju | - - | US Application Serial Number | 10/587,099. |
| | | ve reviewed and un endment referred | | ontents of the above identified sp | pecification, including the claims, |
| patentability a of any foreign designated at application fo | s defined applica least one r patent | l in 37 CFR § 1.56 tion(s) for patent e country other th | i. I hereby claim or inventor's ce an the United S ificate, or PCT | n foreign priority benefits under ertificate, or 365(a) of any PCT States, listed below and have a | on known to me to be material to 35 U.S.C. §§ 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) International application which also identified below any foreign g a filing date before that of the |
| Prior Foreign | Applicat | ion(s) | | | Priority Not Claimed |
| (N | umber) | | (Country) | (Day/Month/Year Filed) | [] |
| I hereby claim | the bene | efit under 35 U.S. | C. § 119(e) of a | any United States provisional a | pplication(s) listed below. |
| | | 60/538, (Applica | 595 tion Number) | January 23, 2004 (Filing Date) | |

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT International application designation the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application.

| PCT/US 2005/001620 | January 21, 2005 | Pending |
|----------------------|------------------|--|
| (Application Number) | (Filing Date) | (Status -patented, pending, abandoned) |

I hereby appoint the attorneys and agents associated with **Customer Number 051957** to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and with the resulting patent, with full power to appoint associate attorneys:

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Attorney Docket No. 17951 US/PCT (HEA) Combined Declaration & Power of Attorney

| | FIRST | M.I. | LAST | CITIZENSHIP | | |
|-------------|------------------------|------|------|-------------|--|--|
| | Janel | Α. | Birk | USA | | |
| Residence/ | | | | | | |
| Post Office | 1110 Nightingale Place | | | | | |
| Address: | Oxnard, CA 93036 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| = | | | | p/3/08 | | |
| | | | | | | |
| - | Signature | | | Date: | | |